

REMARKS

The above-identified application is United States application serial number 10/721,627 filed on November 25, 2003. Claims 1-21 are pending in the application. Claims 14-20 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-11 and 21 are rejected.

Election / Restriction

Restriction to one of the following inventions I and II is required under 35 U.S.C. §121 wherein group I includes claims 1-13 and 21, drawn to a toolless printed circuit carrier assembly, classified in class 361, subclass 724; and group II includes claims 14-20 and is drawn to a method of manufacturing, classified in class 29, subclass 831. Applicants confirm the provisional election with traverse to prosecute group I, claims 1-13 and 21. Claims 14-20 are hereby canceled without prejudice.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

Claims 1-5, 7-11, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hayashi (U.S. Patent No. 4,901,204). Applicants have amended the claims to clarify distinctions over Hayashi. The amended claims are patentable over Hayashi at least on the basis that Hayashi does not disclose "a carrier frame configured to hold a printed circuit assembly of at least two different printed circuit assembly types that respectively mount in at least two different orientations" or first and second toolless retention features that alternatively couple the different printed circuit assembly types in different orientations. Hayashi does not disclose different printed circuit assembly types or alternative orientations corresponding to the different printed circuit assembly types. Independent claims 1, 7, and 21 express similar aspects and similarly distinguish over Hayashi. Other amendments to the claims further distinguish over Hayashi.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

Claims 6 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayashi (U.S. Patent No. 4,901,204) in view of Solheid (US 2004/0146266). Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayashi (U.S. Patent No. 4,901,204) in view of Gaio (U. S. Patent No. 5,901,263). The amended claims distinguish over the combined references at least because the references do not disclose "a carrier frame

configured to hold a printed circuit assembly of at least two different printed circuit assembly types that respectively mount in at least two different orientations" or first and second toolless retention features that alternatively couple the different printed circuit assembly types in different orientations.

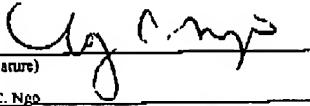
New Claims

New claims 22-28 are added that claim further aspects of the disclosed system. No new matter is added. Applicants believe the new claims distinguish over the cited references.

CONCLUSION

The application, including remaining Claims 1-13 and 21-28, are believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at (949) 251-0250.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO, Central Number at (571) 273-8300 on the date shown below:


(Signature)

Joy C. Ng
(Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)

November 18, 2005
(Date)

Respectfully submitted,



Ken J. Koestner
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 33,004